



NEW MANAGING EDITOR — Reading the election edition of the Torrance Herald is its new managing editor, Cliff Johnson, who formally took over his new assignment this week. (Herald Photo)

Editor Finds Welcome Sign Out in City

Effective this week the Torrance Herald has a new managing editor, Cliff Johnson, who represented this newspaper for a number of years at the Los Angeles Civic Center.

Formerly with the Beverly Hills Citizen Publications, Johnson has been representing the Will Rogers newspaper in the Miracle Mile district of Wilshire boulevard.

"I do not feel that I am a stranger in Torrance," Johnson said, "because I have been reading about Torrance people in the Herald for several years. I have found its citizens most friendly and its officials most cooperative."

Johnson managed the Los Angeles County News Service for 10 years prior to his enlistment in the Army Air Forces in 1942. Since the war he has been in public relations at both North American and Douglas aircraft companies.

He was for five years a news editor of the old Hollywood News, a daily. He is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, and has since attended UCLA.

Council Acts Promptly on Sump Petition

Prompt steps to alleviate a dangerous condition created by an old oil sump on the east side of Border avenue were being taken today by City Administrator George Stevens, following a formal complaint to the City Council this week.

"Must we wait until some child falls into this 30-foot death trap?" asked Velma Grayson when she appeared before the Council Tuesday night.

"You won't have to wait longer than 24 hours to see whether we can close it," Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy, Jr., told her. "Our city administrator will be out there sometime tomorrow to start his investigation."



SOME DISH—RADISH!—measuring 14 inches around (the redish) and weighing one pound this Scarlet Red Radish is proof of what the combined productive genius of an Iowa farmer and California soil can produce. Rosalie Fortin admires this Torrance grown vegetable, raised by Ed Goble, 72-year-old Iowa farmer who planted the seed in a garden at the home of his son, Sam Goble, 22515 Hawthorne boulevard, where he is visiting. (Staff Photo.)

RULE TIDWELL GUILTY; PAYS FINE OF \$100

Adjudged guilty of criminal libel, Haskell Tidwell, secretary of the Retail Clerks Union Local 905, was sentenced yesterday to pay a fine of \$100 or serve two days in jail.

The punishment was meted out by Judge John J. Shidler in Gardena Justice Court Wednesday, after Judge Shidler found Tidwell guilty of violating Section 248 of the Penal Code of California.

The complaint charging Tidwell with criminal libel resulted from malicious libeling of Capt. L. E. DeLaney, secretary of the San Pedro Business Men, Associated, last March 1 at a meeting held in the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Tidwell was denied a new trial by the court yesterday, and he was denied a stay of execution by Judge Shidler. Tidwell paid the fine rather than go to jail for two days.

In his decision Judge Shidler pointed out that testimony of the State's witnesses was uncontradicted. Deputy District Attorney Harry P. Amstutz was in charge of the prosecution.

Tidwell and his attorneys said they would file an appeal.



HEADS LOCAL APPEAL—B. T. Whitney, local finance executive, who has been named to head the 1948 Red Feather appeal in Torrance this fall.

B. T. Whitney to Head Local Chest Appeal

B. T. Whitney, who headed the Special Gifts division of the Torrance Community Chest campaign last year, has accepted the chairmanship for the 1948 Red Feather appeal here, which is slated to get under way this fall, according to Willis H. Merrill, area chairman for Torrance, Lomita, Palos Verdes and the Harbor districts.

"In view of higher costs of agency operation and greater needs for services by the rapidly expanding population, it is essential that all citizens share the responsibility in raising adequate funds for the needs of people here and throughout the metropolitan area," Merrill pointed out.

Whitney, who will handle the local campaign in Torrance, is now engaged in securing other key leaders to fill important posts for the campaign. Announcement of these positions is expected in the near future.

A member of the Kiwanis Club, the Chamber of Commerce and president of the Whitney Finance Co., Whitney is active in civic affairs and is well acquainted with the needs of the community.

In order to plan for full organization of volunteers before the campaign begins Merrill has planned a leadership luncheon meeting for next Tuesday at the San Pedro Army-Navy YMCA. Citizens who have already enrolled for the campaign in the Torrance-Lomita and Harbor area are expected to attend in order to share ideas in connection with the campaign.

Fair, Frolic in Works for Coming Fall

A plan for a Community Fair this fall as a means of raising funds for Chamber of Commerce activities was discussed by the chamber directors at their meeting this week.

Dean Sears made a report on preliminary negotiations with traveling attractions, and it was agreed that an executive committee consisting of Sears, B. T. Whitney and Charles V. Jones should proceed further with the proposal.

The plan as outlined would be an enlargement of the Factory Frolics, held here before the war.

BUILDS NEW HOME

Lloyd L. Darby, 417 Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway, Torrance, is building a new five-room residence at 2821 Via La Selva, in Palos Verdes estates, to cost \$13,500.

CRENSHAW EXTENSION IS GOAL OF CHAMBER

Plans for the extension of Crenshaw boulevard into the Walteria district and for the westerly extension of Carson street, occupied the attention of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce this week.

"With development of the old Weston Ranch, the extension of Crenshaw southerly from Sepulveda boulevard becomes highly important to the people of the new tract as well as to the business people of Torrance," said President Charles T. Rippey.

He appointed a committee to formulate plans, with W. E. Bowen as chairman. Other members are Bob L. Haggard, Charles V. Jones, W. T. Tillotson, Ben H. Haggart and K. Sande Semmes.

Removal of the "dog leg" in Crenshaw boulevard at 190th street also came in for discussion, and Director W. I. Piomert Jr. moved that a letter be directed to the City Council requesting that the improvement be carried through.

Baccalaureate Opens Memorable Week for High School Seniors

Impressive graduation week ceremonies for the 143 students of Torrance High School who will receive their diplomas next week will begin with an impressive baccalaureate address this Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the high school auditorium. This will be the only class to be graduated from the local school under the jurisdiction of Redondo Union High School District.

"Rewards of a Great Objective" will be the subject of the sermon to be given by the Rev. W. A. Penner of the Church of the Nazarene. Admission will of necessity be by invitation, and any seats not claimed by 3:45 p.m. will be offered to the public.

Taking part in the program, which is under the direction of the Torrance Ministerial Association, will be Rev. Clyde E. Ruckman, Father P. J. McGuinness, Rev. Roland Menmuir and Rev. Torben R. Olsen.

The list of graduates follows: Frank Marlan Ainsworth, Jr., Ron Anderson, Juanita Lois Andrews, Charles David Babecek, Walter S. Bacon, Richard S. Barrera.

Neoma B. Barrett, Cecelia May Bidwell, John Clinton

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TEACHER IS 'GRAD' . . . Frank H. Bentwood, Torrance Junior High School teacher, who received degree from Pepperdine College Sunday.

Local Teacher Among Grads at Pepperdine

Frank H. Bentwood, 1313 Greenwood avenue, a teacher in Torrance Junior High School, was among the 187 members of the graduating class of Pepperdine College Sunday. He was graduated with an A. B. degree in Education, psychology being his major and social sciences his minor.

Bentwood attended Pepperdine for the last two years to obtain his degree, and will attend summer sessions for several years to fulfill qualifications for school administrator's credentials. He is a member of Polygrammatic Society for scholastic achievement.

His first college work was taken in Massachusetts and included a year at the General Electric Company's experimental Laboratories at Schenectady, N. Y.

Mrs. Jeanne Bentwood, his wife, is a former Torrance elementary teacher. They have owned their own home here since July, 1945, and have two boys and girl attending local elementary schools.

Bentwood believes the Torrance school system will become one of the finest in the country. He will continue as eighth grade teacher in 1948-49.

Lomita Water Vote Carries

Voters of Lomita's five special precincts voted to annex to the Metropolitan Water District by a vote of 548 to 86.

The balloting was taken to determine if the people in the area wished the newly-formed West Basin Municipal Water District to annex to the M.W.D.

Officials Study School Plans Following Passage of Bonds

With proceeds from a \$1,504,000 school bond issue now within six months' reach as result of passage of the bond issue at last Friday's election, local school officials spent last Tuesday in consultation with architects.

Torrance Vote on Bonds Told

Complete unofficial returns, by precincts, on both School Bond proposals at last Friday's special election were as follows:

Precinct	Prop. No.	Yes	No
1	1	66	1
	2	64	3
2	1	33	8
	2	31	10
3	1	314	149
	2	313	142
4	1	357	201
	2	364	193
5	1	46	7
	2	43	9
6	1	139	24
	2	132	30
7	1	246	3
	2	238	10

Totals were as follows: No. 1—Yes, 1201, No 393; No. 2—Yes, 1185, No 397. A few absentee ballots remain to be counted at the official canvass, which will be made June 11.

RELIEF LOOMS ON DUST BOWL, COUNCIL TOLD

Some prospect of relief for residents living to the windward of the so-called Santa Fe dust bowl was held out today following steps taken on two fronts by city officials.

First, City Attorney C. Douglass Smith has a meeting scheduled at the District Attorney's office June 23 to discuss possible action from the angle that the dust condition is a menace to the public health.

Smith already has held one meeting with the District Attorney, and made a full report on it at Tuesday's City Council meeting. He has been asked to bring a member of the council with him to the June 23 meeting so that official action can be taken at that time.

Second, City Administrator George Stevens has conferred with officials of the CCMO, who sent their chief engineer out to go over the offending property with Stevens.

"They pledged they would plant only a cover crop on their land next year," Stevens said. "We also are considering erection of a palm leaf fence as a temporary measure to stop the sand from blowing across the street."

Both Smith and Stevens will go into the matter further before next week's council meeting.

Taxpayers Get Water Rate Cut in Two Districts

Good news for taxpayers in North Torrance and in Walteria was the announcement this week that the water rate in their areas will be substantially reduced, effective next July 1.

Action to cut the rates was taken at the last meeting of the Torrance Water Board, or recommendation of Chief Engineer William H. Stanger. The reduction is in the levy made for bond interest and retirement.

In Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 which serves Walteria, the rate was reduced to 26 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, as against the 40-cent levy made this year. The 1948 levy was based on this fiscal year's assessed valuation.

In Municipal Water District No. 2, which serves North Torrance, the rate was reduced to 25 cents as against 35 cents, based on last year's valuation.

Installation of six-inch mains in the North Torrance district was approved by the board, in place of the four-inch mains originally contemplated, because of the availability of the larger pipe. The line will be laid by the water district forces, it also was decided.

Increase in the total assessed valuation of the property within the two water districts was largely responsible for the reduction, city officials said, coupled with the economical administration of the district.

Blaine Walker Alaska Bound

Entraining for Vancouver, Blaine Walker, Chamber of Commerce secretary and Mrs. Walker, left Wednesday on a six-weeks trip to Alaska. They will go by boat from Vancouver to Skagway.

The Walkers intend to do some lake and stream fishing during their visit to Santa Claus Lodge, the Alaskan capital, Whitehorse and other colorful spots in the northern territory.

Evening Bus to Be Speeded Up Effective Today

Speed-up in the schedule of the 7:20 p.m. bus out of Los Angeles for Torrance was announced yesterday by W. H. Murphy, manager of Torrance Municipal bus lines.

Effective today, the first bus will arrive from Los Angeles at 8:05 p.m. instead of 8:20 p.m. as formerly. The bus then will make the usual loop and pull in.



HEALTH MENACE—Best way of obliterating the threat to the health of citizens of Torrance would be to sub-divide the arid 'dust bowl' lands for needed residential acreage, say windward residents who are troubled with the shifting sands. Mrs. Ruth A. Clarkson, 904 Crenshaw boulevard, who lives across the street from the offending property, demonstrates how the winds carry the light soil into surrounding territory. (Staff Photo.)